Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-3, 5-20 and 22-27 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 20, 24 and 27 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 20, 22, 24, and 27 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Claims 4, 21, 28-30 were previously cancelled.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Objection to the Title

The Title has been amended in response to the objection to the title presented on page 2 of the present Office Action. This amendment introduces no new matter and its entry is respectfully requested. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the objection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Objection to the Claims

Claim 22 has been objected to for alleged informalities. Claim 22 has been amended to overcome this objection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the objection of claim 22 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

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Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Office Action has rejected claims 1, 18, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Without acquiescing to the propriety of the rejections, Applicants have amended claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Bornemisza and Knight

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 18, 19, and 24-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being alleged unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,154,895 to Bornemisza et *al.* ("Bornemisza") in view of U.S. Pre-Grant Publication 2002/0176424 to Knight et al. ("Knight"). For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully traverse.

Independent claims 1 and 24 recite, *inter alia*, "wherein said secondary header represents a compressed version of the primary header and includes a *single byte* comprising an entry number for a header lookup table *and* an unmodified Payload Type Identifier copied from the primary header." (emphasis added). Applicants submit that neither Bornemisza nor Knight teach or suggest at least this feature of independent claims 1 and 24. The Office Action concedes that the primary citation to Bornemisza does not teach or suggest of a single byte that comprises *both* an entry number for a header lookup table *and* an unmodified Payload Type Identifier (PTI) copied from the primary header, as recited by claims 1 and 24. (Office Action, page 4). Specifically, the Office Action concedes that Bornemisza does not teach or suggest of a secondary header

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that includes an unmodified Payload Type Identifier copied from the primary header.

Nonetheless, the Office Action rejects independent claims 1 and 24, contending that the

secondary citation to Knight provides this missing teaching. Without acquiescing to the

propriety of the combination of Bornemisza and Knight, Applicants respectfully

disagree.

The Office Action, in support of the rejection of claims 1 and 24, cites to page 3,

paragraph [0038] of Knight, which recites:

> If the cell is neither an OAM cell nor subject to discard due to EPD/PPD
> rules, a cell buffer is allocated in step 308. In step 310, the cell is copied
> from the hardware input port to the buffer. Next, in step 312, modification
> of the cell header (if necessary) is done to ready the cell for
> retransmission on an associated output port. This may involve rewriting
> some fields of the header (e.g. VPI) while leaving others (e.g. VCI, PTI)
> unchanged, or may require rewriting the whole header. In step 314, the
> buffer is added to the FIFO queue attached to the flow. That is, a pointer
> to the buffer's location in inserted into the circular array described above.
> In step 316, cell statistics are updated, and in step 318, the transmission
> port is activated so that the cell eventually gets retransmitted.

Knight, in the disclosure reproduced above, describes the retransmission of a cell, which

"may involve rewriting some fields of the header (e.g., VPI) while leaving others (e.g.

VCI, PTI) unchanged." (Knight, page 3, paragraph [0038]). However, Knight does not

mention *copying* the PTI in anyway to a secondary header *that represents a compressed*

version of the primary header, as recited by claims 1 and 24.

Moreover, Even assuming *arguendo* that Knight teaches of an unmodified

Payload Type Identifier, the combination of Bornemisza and Knight still fails to teach or

suggest of "a *single byte* comprising an entry number for a header lookup table *and* an

unmodified Payload Type Identifier copied from the primary header," as recited by claim

1. (emphasis added). Currently, the present Office Action fails to disclose how the

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combination of Bornemisza and Knight teaches of a *single byte* that comprises *both* an entry number for a header lookup table *and* an unmodified Payload Type Identifier copied from the primary header, as recited by claims 1 and 24.

For at least the foregoing reasons, independent claims 1 and 24 are patentable over the combination of Bornemisza and Knight. Claims 2-3, 5-9, 18 and 19 depend from claim 1; claims 25 and 26 depend from claim 24. Dependent claims 2-3, 5-9, 18, 19, 25, and 26 are similarly patentable over the combination of Bornemisza and Knight for at least the same reason as claims 1 and 24, from which they respectively depend, and further in view of their own respective features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1-3, 5-9, 18, 19, 24, and 26 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Agarwal and Knight

Claims 1, 5, 10-17, 20, 21, and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being alleged unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,963,570 to Agarwal ("Agarwal") in view of U.S. Patent No. to Knight. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully traverse.

Independent claims 1, 20, 24, and 27 recite, *inter alia*, "wherein said secondary header represents a compressed version of the primary header and includes a *single byte* comprising an entry number for a header lookup table *and* an unmodified Payload Type Identifier copied from the primary header." (emphasis added). Applicants submit that neither Agarwal nor Knight teach or suggest at least this feature of independent claims 1, 20, 24, and 27. The Office Action concedes that the primary citation to Agarwal does not teach or suggest of a single byte that comprises *both* an entry number for a header

lookup table *and* an unmodified Payload Type Identifier (PTI) copied from the primary

header, as recited by claims 1, 20, 24, and 27. (Office Action, page 7). Specifically, the

Office Action concedes that Agarwal does not teach or suggest of a secondary header

that includes an unmodified Payload Type Identifier copied from the primary header.

Nonetheless, the Office Action rejects independent claims 1, 20, 24, and 27, contending

that the secondary citation to Knight provides this missing teaching. Without

acquiescing to the propriety of the combination of Agarwal and Knight, Applicants

respectfully disagree.

The Office Action, in support of the rejection of claims 1, 20, 24, and 27, cites to

page 3, paragraph [0038] of Knight, which recites:

> If the cell is neither an OAM cell nor subject to discard due to EPD/PPD
> rules, a cell buffer is allocated in step 308. In step 310, the cell is copied
> from the hardware input port to the buffer. Next, in step 312, modification
> of the cell header (if necessary) is done to ready the cell for
> retransmission on an associated output port. This may involve rewriting
> some fields of the header (e.g. VPI) while leaving others (e.g. VCI, PTI)
> unchanged, or may require rewriting the whole header. In step 314, the
> buffer is added to the FIFO queue attached to the flow. That is, a pointer
> to the buffer's location in inserted into the circular array described above.
> In step 316, cell statistics are updated, and in step 318, the transmission
> port is activated so that the cell eventually gets retransmitted.

As noted earlier, the disclosure of Knight reproduced above describes the retransmission

of a cell, which "may involve rewriting some fields of the header (e.g., VPI) while

leaving others (e.g. VCI, PTI) unchanged." (Knight, page 3, paragraph [0038]).

However, Knight does not mention *copying* the PTI in anyway to a secondary header

that represents a compressed version of the primary header, as recited by claims 1, 20,

24, and 27.

Moreover, Even assuming *arguendo* that Knight teaches of an unmodified Payload Type Identifier, the combination of Agarwal and Knight still fails to teach or suggest of "a *single byte* comprising an entry number for a header lookup table *and* an unmodified Payload Type Identifier copied from the primary header," as recited by claim 1. (emphasis added). Currently, the present Office Action fails to disclose how the combination of Agarwal and Knight teaches of a *single byte* that comprises *both* an entry number for a header lookup table *and* an unmodified Payload Type Identifier copied from the primary header, as recited by claims 1 and 24.

For at least the foregoing reasons, independent claims 1, 20, 24, and 27 are patentable over the combination of Agarwal and Knight. Claims 5 and 10-17 depend from claim 1. Dependent claims 5 and 10-17 are similarly patentable over the combination of Agarwal and Knight for at least the same reasons as claim 1, from which they depend, and further in view of their own respective features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 5, 10-17, 20, 24, and 27 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Agarwal, Knight, and Rosengard

Claims 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being alleged unpatentable over Agarwal in view of U.S. Patent No. to Knight, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,760,345 to Rosengard. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully traverse.

Rosengard does not cure the deficiencies of the Agarwal and Knight with respect to independent claim 20 as noted above. Consequently, independent claim 20 is patentable over the combination of Agarwal, Knight, and Rosengard. Claims 22 and 23

depend from claim 20. Dependent claims 22 and 23 are patentable over Agarwal, Knight, and Rosengard for at least the same reasons as claim 20, from which they depend, and further in view of their own respective features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 22 and 23 be reconsidered and withdrawn.
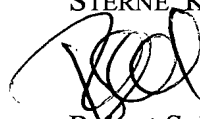
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert Sokohl
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 36,013

Date: 9|24|03

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600
872174_1.DOC

Atty. Dkt. No. 1875.4640001